

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6053**

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 22

**NOTE PREPARED:** Feb 23, 2012

**BILL AMENDED:** Feb 23, 2012

**SUBJECT:** Conservancy District Director Compensation.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Nugent

**FIRST SPONSOR:** Rep. McMillin

**BILL STATUS:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - 2<sup>nd</sup> House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**     **GENERAL**  
                              **DEDICATED**  
                              **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** Local

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) This bill provides compensation for directors of conservancy districts commensurate with their workload and responsibilities. It provides that compensation may not be based upon a tax assessment imposed by the district.

The bill requires that a petition filed by freeholders to establish a conservancy district be signed by at least 50% of freeholders owning land in the proposed district.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2012.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** (Revised) *Establishment of Conservancy Districts:* This bill changes the number of freeholders owning land in a proposed district that must sign a petition to establish a conservancy district to 50%. This change could make it more difficult for more populous areas to successfully petition for a conservancy district, which could result in fewer filings of petitions for circuit court clerks and courts to review. Any impact will depend upon local situations.

*Conservancy District Director Compensation:* This bill could increase expenditures for conservancy districts with income sources that are not derived from any tax, assessment, rate, or charge by allowing for compensation for the directors above the amount currently allowed by statute. Any additional compensation

would be subject to approval by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, and must be authorized by a court order. The fiscal impact would be dependent upon actions taken by the boards of directors of conservancy districts with income sources that are not dependent on taxes, assessments, rates, or charges.

*Background Information* - Current statute allows compensation for conservancy district directors consisting of the following: (1) up to \$100 for no more than two regular or specially called board meetings per month; (2) \$50 for no more than five days per month devoted to the work of the district; (3) actual expenses, including traveling expense at a rate equal to the rate paid to state officers and employees.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:** Conservancy districts.

**Information Sources:**

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